

December 2024

Thai Times w/ Amy Cottle



Live to be forgotten so that Christ might be remembered. D.E. Hoste

Dear friends and family,

I can't believe that this is my last prayer letter. So many emotions...relief because they are not easy to write sometimes; sadness because a season has ended; excitement as God has led me into a new season, and gratitude for the connection with each of you. I began my prayer letters in the Fall of 2012 soon after being accepted by OMF as a missionary candidate. Thank you for reading them! You all have blessed me in more ways than I can name!

How is the work in Mahasarakham?

- **Bible Christian Church of Mahasarakham.** The work continues to go well at the church plant. This year there were Christmas outreaches in 5 new communities. These communities have either new cell groups or people interested in learning more about Jesus. Praise the Lord for the nine new Thai Christians recently baptized from these communities! It is not uncommon to see Thai people make a profession of faith in Jesus and then disappear when contacted about studying the Bible or being baptized so it is especially exciting to see these nine believers take the next step to be baptized. May they persevere in their faith!
- **Student Ministry.** In addition to the work in the communities, there is still an emphasis on university students. Student Christmas parties, cookie baking and Christmas outreaches at elementary schools continued this year. May students and professors understand the Christmas message and come to saving faith!

It is a wonderful feeling to leave a ministry and see it thrive after you have gone. God is good and He is working in Maha Sarakham! The team will need continued prayers as they navigate between the needs of students and the communities they want to reach.



What's Next for Me?

I am happy to report that I have accepted a full-time position as an Administrative Coordinator in the Department of Healthcare Education Initiatives at Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C). I will start on January 21, 2025. This is truly a blessing from the Lord.

My time with OMF as a missionary ends on December 31, 2024. Afterwards, I plan to volunteer with OMF on their U.S. Candidate Team, doing what I can to get people to the field in East Asia. It has been a joy and privilege to serve with OMF and be small a part of the legacy established by God's grace in 1865!

What God has taught me these past 10 years in Thailand

Two words have resonated with me as I think about my time in Thailand...**rooted** and **surrendered**. When I first got to Thailand in 2014, I thought there must be some mistake, "I don't belong here. This is too hard...the language, culture, weather, etc." I am so happy that I persevered through those doubts! By your prayers and God's grace, I remained **rooted** in Christ and His love for me. I was never once outside of His presence and care even though sometimes I felt very alone! I have **surrendered** the outcome of my ten years in Thailand to the Lord, knowing *"for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure (Phil 2:13)."* He will use it for His own purposes. The harvest is the Lord's!

I praise God for my time in Thailand and for how He brought each of you into my life and into the work there! No missionary ever works alone.

"Those who live at the ends of the earth stand in awe of your wonders. From where the sun rises to where it sets, you inspire shouts of joy (Ps. 65:8)." I hope you experience the wonder of God's love for you this Christmas season and in the years ahead!

With love,
Amy Cottle

Prayer requests:

- Praise the Lord for the good work in Maha Sarakham
- Praise for the 9 people who were baptized recently. May their faith grow!
- Pray that more students will make a decision for Jesus
- Praise the Lord for my new job at Tri-C! Pray that I will do well and glorify the Lord in my new role.
- Pray for more churches, believers and missionaries in Thailand!

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